



**Written Testimony from The Hertz Company
Senate Bill 898**

Vehicle Laws – Rental Vehicles – Driver’s License Verification and Records

Position: Support

Dear Chairman Smith and the Members of the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee,

We appreciate the opportunity to submit testimony in support of Senate Bill 898.

The Hertz Corporation (“Hertz”), a subsidiary of Hertz Global Holdings, Inc., operates the Hertz, Dollar and Thrifty vehicle rental brands in approximately 10,200 corporate and franchisee locations throughout North America, Europe, The Caribbean, Latin America, Africa, the Middle East, Asia, Australia and New Zealand. The Hertz Corporation is one of the largest worldwide rental companies, and the Hertz brand is one of the most recognized in the world. Product and service initiatives such as Hertz Gold Plus Rewards, Ultimate Choice, Carfirmations, Mobile Wi-Fi and unique vehicles offered through the Adrenaline, Dream, Green and Prestige Collections set Hertz apart from the competition.

Hertz has entered into an exclusive arrangement with CLEAR, the company whose technology is presently being used at BWI-Marshall Airport for processing airline passengers through security lines by means of its biometric screening. Hertz is offering the use of this technology as a value-added service to its Gold Club Members who want to reserve their rental cars in advance of getting to the airport so they can avoid any delays.

In advance of a trip, Hertz simply performs an electronic scan of a Gold Club Member’s license which they will check for authenticity. Hertz would check valid licensure (suspension and expiration status) with issuing DMVs, and in the meantime performs an expiration check based on the date listed on the face of a given license. This is done electronically, and the expiration date is stored in Hertz’s systems. Rentals will not be permitted if the license is expired.

Biometric scans are performed at the airport facility to (1) match the individual renting with an approved comparison between an individual and license performed at time of registration; and/or (2) match the individual renting to the authenticated and validated driver’s license in their possession at the time of rent.

Maryland law currently prohibits anyone from renting a motor vehicle to another person without inspecting the renter’s driver’s license; comparing and verifying that (1) the signature on the license with the signature of the individual, as written in the presence of the lessor or agent, and (2) the physical description on the license with the physical appearance of the individual.

This legislation seeks to allow for these activities to be done through electronic or digital means to allow for this program to be implemented at BWI-Marshall Airport. Additionally, it allows for such records to be kept in an electronic or digital format. Finally, it provides that if a lessor rents a motor vehicle to an individual in a manner that allows the other person to obtain possession of the vehicle without making direct contact with the lessor, the lessor is deemed to be in compliance with the law if the lessor requires the person who will operate the vehicle to enter into a membership or master program agreement.



Activity Across the Country

In 2019, there were nine states that required a human confirmation that the person leaving with the rental car was the same person whose photo is on the provided driver's license. The other 41 states had no such restriction.

Since then, Florida, Colorado, and Illinois have amended their statute along the lines of what Hertz has proposed in Maryland. All three passed without controversy. Bills are presently pending in Utah, Texas, Nevada as well. Utah and Maryland are being addressed this year while Texas and Nevada do not reconvene their legislatures until January 2021.

Implementation of the Program at Specific Airports

AP Code	Go-Live Date
ATL Airport	12/5/2018
MSY Airport	2/26/2019
CLT Airport	3/21/2019
DTW Airport	3/26/2019
IAD Airport	4/9/2019
DCA Airport	4/23/2019
SJC Airport	5/7/2019
MSP Airport	5/21/2019
BOS Airport	6/18/2019
PHX Airport	7/9/2019
LAX Airport	7/23/2019
SFO Airport	8/13/2019
FLL Airport	9/24/2019
DEN Airport	9/24/2019
ORD Airport	12/31/2019
IAH Airport	12/31/2019
DFW Airport	12/31/2019